



IPFW Omnitrus Lecture Series Presents

A.J. JACOBS

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the Communicator

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Into the Mind of **A.J. JACOBS, The-Know-It-All**

By Said El-Dajani
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As a writer, A.J. Jacobs has spent his career immersing himself into lifestyles and projects then chronicling his experiences. Essentially a guinea pig, Jacobs sees his life as a series of experiments.

In a past experiment, Jacobs read all 32 volumes of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, then wrote about it in his humorous book, *The Know-It-All: One Man's Humble Quest to Become the Smartest Person in the World* (2004).

Raised in a secular family, his lack of religion growing up was incentive for him to embark on a thorough journey of living morally for one year, abiding by the 700 rules of the bible, literally.

"I am Jewish in the same way that the Olive Garden is Italian," says Jacobs, who started his journey

with a stack of bibles, one of which was a hip-hop version that claims, "the lord is all that."

The result of his experiment was a newfound approach to life, twins, and a book entitled *My Year of Living Biblically: One Man's Humble Quest to Follow the Bible as Literally as Possible* (2007).

The account is hailed as comical and profound, reverent and irrational, personal and universal, and it will make you see history's most influential book with new eyes. According to an IPFW press release, Jacobs embeds himself in a cross-section of communities that take the Bible literally: He wrestles with seemingly archaic rules that baffle the 21st-century brain, and he discovers ancient wisdom of startling relevance.

A.J. Jacobs is a New York Times bestselling author and Esquire editor. He has written for The New York Times, Entertainment Weekly, and New York Maga-



My Year of Living Biblically
Thursday, March 26, 2009 | 7:30 p.m.
Rhinehart Music Center

zine, among others. Jacobs has appeared on Oprah, The Today Show, Good Morning America, and is a periodic commentator on NPR's Weekend Edition Saturday.

IPFW's Upcoming Annual Health Fair

By Kelly McLendon
kellymclendon@ipfwcommunicator.org

The IPFW 20th Annual Health Fair will take place Wednesday, Mar. 25 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Walt Union. There will be free fitness activities, free health screenings and healthy-living cooking demonstrations. It is an excellent opportunity to receive information about being healthier and also to sample a wide variety of food and talk with fitness trainers.

There will be more than 100 vendors available to distribute their products and evaluate health risks. If this time of year for you means getting

ready to look good wearing a swimsuit in anticipation of summer, the health fair is the place to start that journey. Vendors such as Parkview Health and Fitness Center and the new Anytime Fitness chain will be on-site.

One can also get a blood sugar screening, which requires a 2-hour fast; or you can have a complete blood health profile taken. It includes cholesterol, HDL, LDL, Triglyceride testing and more, but requires a 12-hour fast and costs \$14 for IPFW students.

If the Health Fair has you excited about the prospects of starting a new fitness program, check out the Gates Sport Center for more information and start living well.



The Communicator has an opening for the following position starting Fall 2009:

Editor In Chief

The candidate will demonstrate exceptional management and editing skills as well as a motivated work ethic to manage the overall success of The Communicator. The EIC will be responsible for managing the editorial team as well as staff writers.

The position requires the candidate to maintain and expand relationships within the student body, faculty and staff as well as community members to coordinate objective and entertaining content.

Persons interested in joining this excellent career-defining and rewarding endeavor should send a resume and cover letter to the following address:

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IPSGA hosting candidate forums

Forum to increase awareness of candidates, issues

Future of IPFW food services to be discussed at roundtable

By Dan Jehl

Can.Jehl@ipfwcommuniator.org

The Indiana-Purdue Student Government Association is hosting student government candidate forums March 18 and 19 in Walb Student Union.

According to SGA Director Hagi Bradley, "(It's an effort to help increase awareness of the candidates for the students."

The "Meet the Candidate" forums will be held this Wednesday and Thursday from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM in the Walb Union.

According to Bradley, "There will be a table for each candidate to provide information for students, and the SGA Elections Board will provide food for the students."

Campaigning began March 2 for the upcoming April 13-18 elections with 11 students submitting candidate petitions to become qualified to seek office.

There will be more candidate forum in April prior to the election week. Election week falls during the same time as Spring Fling.

Student Body President candidates are DeAngelo LaVette, Ajay Mahay, Amanda Marks, Ronald Ramsey, Allison Westropp.

For Vice President of Legislation, the candidates are Andrew Stackhouse and Kody Tinnel.

Vice-President of Finance candidates are Melissa Cornish and Erik Shepherd.

Candidates this year who are seeking the Vice President of Student Programming office are Nikita Mathews, Mickey (Michael) Smith, and Nicole Walker.

2009-2010 IPSGA Candidates

Student Body President

DeAngelo LaVette
Ajay Mahay
Amanda Marks
Ronald Ramsey
Allison Westropp

Vice President of Legislation

Andrew Stackhouse
Kody Tinnel

Vice President of Finance

Missella Cornish
Erik Shepherd

Vice President of Student Programming

Nikita Mathews
Mickey (Michael) Smith
Nicole Walker

By Katy Anderson

Kathryn Anderson
@ipfwcommuniator.org

How satisfied are you with the current food services and options at IPFW? Is food here too expensive? Not healthy enough? Whether students believe IPFW needs a new cafeteria, more restaurants, or better vending machines, attending the Food Service Roundtable. Discussion may be a good way to express one's concerns.

The Student Affairs Committee of IPSGA is hosting a roundtable discussion Mon., March 23 between 12:30 p.m. and 1:15 p.m. in Walb room 222-224. There will be free food provided by Blue Spoon Catering. Food options at IPFW

will be discussed. committee hopes that this will start to close the gap between student government and the student body.

The Food Service Roundtable is an opportunity for students to express their opinions on the future of IPFW food services. Dr. McClellan, Vice-Chancellor of Student Affairs, will also be in attendance to participate and listen to the discussion.

"Student Affairs is in charge of representing and championing the interests of the student body to student government and the administration," committee member Amanda Marks said. "In order to do that we need to have a clear idea of what those interests are, and that requires direct feedback from the students themselves."

Student Investing 101

Everything you ever wanted to know about a 401 (k)

By Jessie Ruckman

Jessie Ruckman@
ipfwcommuniator.org

Say you have a good job with benefits and a 401 (k) package. You work faithfully and contribute five percent of your pre-tax income to your retirement, and if you're really lucky, the company for which you work is kind enough in this economic climate to match part of your contribution. In 30 years, you should be all set for retirement, ready to buy that boat and sail your wrinkled self into the sunset, right?

Hate to burst your bubble, but you would be wrong. Some people who are ready to retire now, or within the next couple of years are having to push their retirement date back or worse because their retirement funds have tanked. I look at my parents, who have both faithfully contributed to their 401 (k) retirement funds, only to have the bulk of it disappear into the nebulas.

Say you've heard of a 401 (k) fund, but don't really know how it works. I didn't either, but I had a hunch that your pre-tax income was invested into the stock market via either straight stocks, mutual funds or whatever else investment companies decide is right for your money.

According to Joshua Kennon, an investment blogger for <http://about.com>, "A 401k retirement plan is a spe-

cial type of account funded through pre-tax payroll deductions. The funds in the account can be invested in a number of different stocks, bonds, mutual funds or other assets, and are not taxed on any capital gains, dividends, or interest until they are withdrawn."

Basically, your money is put into the stock market, where for the last few years, was a relatively safe place. Today, these markets are volatile, gaining and losing dividends with the fluctuation of a bullie movie star.

So, my point is this: diversity where your money goes. I do invest four percent of my pre-tax income automatically into my 401 (k) retirement fund, but I also have a Roth IRA to supplement for retirement. If your company offers a retirement account such as a 401 (k) or equivalent, you would be a fool not to use it. Frankly, I don't even miss that four percent, and never noticed that it had gone elsewhere, where it would work for my future. It's very easy to sign up, and takes only a few minutes to invest in your future. But you would also be wise to supplement your 401 (k) with something else, like either a traditional or a Roth IRA.

Interested? Next week, we'll discuss the pros and cons of IRAs, but I'll tell you ahead of time, I'm a big fan. Until then, read up on 401 (k) retirement funds at the following web sites: <http://RetirementInvestment.com> <http://beginnersinvest.about.com> <http://investopedia.com/terms/1/401kplan.asp>

IPFW



Campus Calendar

March 19-25 2009

- 19 **Advisor Connection Week Event:** Open houses, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.: Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science, ET, Music, RC, Visual Communication and Design & Fine Arts, VA, Call 16161.
- University Religious Forum:** "Sacred Texts Past and Present: Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Perspectives on the Meaning of Scripture," Helmeke Library second floor, noon-1:15 p.m. In conjunction with The Remnant Trust at IPFW exhibit.
- Remnant Trust at IPFW Events:** Enrich Symposium, WU Ballroom, 1:30 and 7:30 p.m.; Drama, "The Forgotten Suffragist, The Life of Anna Howard Shaw," NF 101, 6:30 p.m. Call 16495.
- Express Lane Drop-In Career Counseling:** KT 109, noon-2 p.m. Call 10689.
- 20 **Final Day to Withdraw from Spring Classes**
- Weekend College Mid-Term Celebration:** KT Lobby, 4-7 p.m. Free food.
- Music Lecture/Recital:** "The Artful Genius of Chopin," Nalin Harshinin, associate professor of piano, Taylor University. For information, call 16714.
- 21 **Weekend College Mid-Term Celebration:** KT Lobby, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Free food.
- Northeast Indiana Regional Science and Engineering Fair:** GC, public viewing 1-3 p.m. Call 15756.
- 7th Annual Math Alumni Dinner:** WU Ballroom, 6 p.m. For reservations, call 16807 or e-mail alumni@ipfw.edu.
- Remnant Trust at IPFW Event:** Drama, "Fighting Words: A Dialogue on Women in Combat," KT Studio Theatre, 8 p.m. Call 16495.
- 22 **Remnant Trust at IPFW CATV Series:** "Women and Power," CATV, Verizon channel 30, and Comcast channel 5, 5:30 p.m.
- Remnant Trust at IPFW Event:** Jewish-Christian-Muslim series for children, Ron Friedman, presenter, Helmeke Library basement, 7 p.m. For adults too, Call 16495.
- 23 **Spanish Table:** WU Fireside Lounge, noon. Contact conform@ipfw.edu.
- Remnant Trust at IPFW Lecture:** "Contesting the Canon—the Protestant Revolution," Cameron McKean, speaker, Helmeke Library second floor, 4:30-6 p.m. Call 16495.
- 25 **Free Cholesterol and Wellness Screenings:** WU 114-116, 7-10 a.m. For IPFW employees, relatives, spouses, and the first 100 IPFW students. Schedule an appointment at www.ipfw.edu/health.
- IPFW Health Fair:** WU, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. For information, visit www.ipfw.edu/health or call 16647.
- Student Life Workshop:** "Leadership 101," WU 114-116, noon-1 p.m. Call 16263.
- Mock Interview Day:** KT 109, 1-5 p.m. For information, call 16640.
- Express Lane Drop-In Career Counseling:** KT 109, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 10689.
- Remnant Trust at IPFW Film Series:** 9 to 5, Cinema Center, 437 E. Berry, 6:30 p.m.; free admission.

This ad courtesy of the Office of the Chancellor

COFFEY BREAK

By Kim Coffey



Lack of zoo space jeopardizes baby hippo's life *op-ed*

Baby hippo may be euthanized, fed to other animals, or placed in circus

By Kelly McLendon

Kelly McLendon@
ipfwcommunicator.org

A tiny Hippopotamus named Farasi snuggles up to his mother at the Basel Zoo in Switzerland. He's a tiny thing; his speckled body is stumpy and his legs barely seem to move him around. But he's hauntingly cute, and could be about to die.

The Basel Zoo, where he lives, is overcrowded and zoo officials are

wondering how Farasi will live with lack of space. "If we don't find a good place, he might be killed and eaten by other animals in the zoo," zoo spokeswoman Tania Dietrich said to the news service Swissinfo shortly after Farasi was born.

The preferred option is not to transfer Farasi to another zoo—it's to kill him and throw his 220-pound body into a lion cage, where it will be shamelessly devoured within a matter of seconds. This is not an African safari, where this might happen naturally; on the contrary, it is happening in a zoo, which is supposed to be a place for the display and preservation of animals.

Many other European zoos, like Basel, have created an overabundance of animals that have no place to live. The extra animals end up living in horrible conditions while waiting on a crowded list to find a placement with another zoo. Farasi is on a Surplus List for European zoos. It is a list that more than 18,500 animals are placed on each year, according to Captive Animals Protection Society.

Also, a circus group has sent a request into the zoo to take Farasi,

but why should he have to be dressed up in a ridiculous red vest costume and made to be paraded in front of thousands of people? Sure, he's cute, but he belongs in a preservation, where he can be well-cared for by animal rights advocates.

A concrete decision will happen in about ten months, when Farasi will be old enough to leave the care of his mother, a hippo named Helvetia. Maybe he will be fed to the lions, maybe Basel Zoo will acquire more space, or maybe he'll end up doing tricks for the circus.

The best option would be to have him sent to an African preserve, where he can live out his days without fear of being maliciously killed for ill-planning space issues he had no control over.



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The Communicator Presents

Fort Wayne's Gem Collection

Cheap Books Glistens in Bad Economy

By Wil Upchurch

wil.upchurch@ipfwcommunicator.org

Did your ex-boyfriend leave a stack of CDs behind that you don't know what to do with? Got piles of books cluttering up your apartment? Missing that one book in your most cherished series, but don't ever seem to have the money to finish the collection? On March 12th, Half Price Books opened to help solve your problems.

One of the most beloved bookstores in the country, Half Price Books is finally making the move to Fort Wayne. The store is open at 533 E. Coliseum Blvd., next to Carlos O'Kelly's in the strip mall across the street from Panera and Bob Evans. They've been open for about a month already, getting the store in shape and allowing customers to come in and browse and sell.

In addition to offering an entire store of books at half off cover price (and sometimes well below), the store buys books, movies, music, and games. I recently brought in a couple dozen books and two DVDs and walked out with a little over \$60 cash within minutes.

Selling is as much fun as buying at Half Price; you bring your stuff to the Sell Books Here counter and their team of buyers pass through your stuff, evaluates it, and then calls you over the intercom when they have an offer ready. Of course, they hope you've had time to wander around and find a few books to pick up with the cash they hand you.

Half Price Books isn't what you normally think of when you picture a used bookstore. It's bright, clean, and well organized. The books are in great condition, and they even have a ton of new books at half cover price. They do this through partnerships with publishers (including game companies) in which Half Price buys overstocks (Tony Warms, district manager for the Indianapolis region, estimated the stores are about 30% new products). You quickly realize that regularly visiting the store can bear fruit, as they are constantly stocking their shelves with newly acquired books, changing their discount displays around, and

"People tend to form personal connections with their local Half Price Books."

featuring sales and other fun promotions.

People tend to form personal connections with their local Half Price Books. There is just something about the smell of the books on wooden shelves, the old LP covers plastered on the bathroom walls, and the quirky staff that encourages you to come back over and over again. The stores reciprocate this affection by becoming involved in their local community.

They offer a no-strings-attached 10% discount card to all teachers and librarians. Store managers also work with local charities to hold book drives and find places to donate media on a regular basis. Locally, the new store is partnering with the IPFW art department to feature the works of student artists on the walls, and is looking to partner with local community centers and children's hospitals to donate books.

In addition, what they can't sell, they recycle using a local recycling option. At halfpricebooks.com you can find several resources devoted to the company's philosophy of recycling and protecting the environment. It's an integral part of their corporate culture and their mission.

The store is doing good things for the local economy as well, and not just by providing a treasure trove of half price goodies. They hired seventeen employees to work at the store, and while they're no longer hiring at the moment, Warms told me that they are

always accepting applications.

Excitement is already building surrounding their opening. Warms related to me a story of one Sunday afternoon when they weren't open but were inside stocking the shelves. Two older ladies drove by very slowly in their car, peering at the signs on the windows, trying to see what was inside. Once they realized what the store was and without seeing anyone looking back from inside, they both gave a thumbs up symbol to the storefront, grinned, and then drove off.

Photo by Lucas Carter



Authentic Vietnamese

The Saigon Offers Best Crab Rangoon in Town

By Kelly McLendon

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Its soup graced the cover of Fort Wayne Magazine in February. Patrons say the restaurant has the best crab rangoon in town. The Saigon, located at 2005 South Calhoun Street, is a gem of a restaurant that nobody seems to know about. In fact, it's one of the best well-kept secrets in the city.

Diners to the Vietnamese venue will find a crowded dining area and a busy waitstaff, but a diverse selection of food choices, including Vietnamese, Chinese and of course, American. But you don't really go to such an authentic restaurant to just order chicken fingers and fries. You go there to order menu items like Kung Pao chicken and Beef Noodle bowls.

Ranked on Yahoo! Travel restaurant reviews as 4.5 stars out of 5, The Saigon isn't a restaurant to be missed. "Saigon is an unpretentious, understated, wholly authentic Vietnamese restaurant. The Vietnamese and Chinese food is plentiful, well prepared and tasty and it's prices simply can't be beaten. A great value," one reviewer commented.

The Yahoo! site contained six re-

views for the restaurant, all of which had great things to say about the food, but less than adequate comments about the service.

"I think that Saigon has good food, but the service lacks somewhat. It takes a bit for the food even when they are not busy, though it's worth the wait," another reviewer said.

It's true that when you sit down at The Saigon during a busy lunch rush, it will take your server more than just a few minutes to get to your table. When she does, however, be prepared to order and your food will be out of the kitchen faster than it takes for you to talk about the weather with your dining companions.

Since the crab rangoon comes highly recommended, it's only natural that you should order it. One order contains three delicious deep fried shells filled with a mixture of crab and cream cheese, expertly blended into a melt-in-your-mouth concoction.

The rest of the menu is just as delicious and for some patrons, even worth driving for.

"I've been going to Saigon for over 7 years now and the place never changes! I drive sometimes up to 2 hours just to get Saigon. That must say something!" a third reviewer said.

Hana Thoughts

By Hana Hawash

hana.hawash@ipfwcommunicator.org

My Name is Hana, Pronounced Henna

Have a question that you are figuratively or quite literally dying for an answer to? Not getting an answer that satisfies your thirst for knowledge in the way of the human and or animal species? This may actually be the luckiest day of your life. This is the beginning of a column that will not only answer your questions directly, but from a different perspective you might not have even thought of before. Basically, I'm here to open your mind and fill it with all sorts of knowledge and useful tips.

Let me introduce myself. My name is Hana, pronounced Henna; this is crucial in the most unimportant of ways. I am an "on the fence" sort of person, giving me the ability to see things from many different perspectives. The goal of this column is to answer IPFW students' questions as well as discuss and clarify other topics that may be of importance to the campus or student body.

Here's how this will work: You, the reader, will ponder your plethora of questions.

Once you have decided what you really want to understand or receive an answer to, you may send your question in via e-mail, I, the unlicensed writer, researcher and advisor will then attempt to answer your



question. Not all questions submitted will receive a printed answer, but bear in mind that I will advise and help you understand anything on a one-on-one level if you wish.

Questions submitted can be about anything from make-up advice to how to deal with a perturbed co-worker - let us not be shy.

I hope that this advice and information column will inspire, clarify and counsel in a considerably humorous manner. I will not only be giving you my own thoughts and experiences, but I will be giving you the thoughts and views of the professionals as well.

Thursday Gives Chicago A Taste of Chaos

By Lucas Carter
www.lucasartphotography.com

Hundreds of eager fans turned out for the Chicago stop of the Rockstar Taste of Chaos tour last Thursday, March 12 at the Vic Theater. The band Thursday was headlining the event, backed by other energetic hardcore, metal, and punk bands including Cancer Bats, Pierce the Veil, Four Year Strong and Bring Me The Horizon.

The Vic Theater gave music lovers a very close and intimate performance. Thursday gave one of the most passionate and energetic shows that I've ever witnessed, playing new and old songs alike. Songs from their new album, *Common Existence*, included a version of "Recussitation of a Dead Man" featuring Rise Against lead vocalist Tim McIlrath. Thursday also played fan favorites such as "Understanding in a Car Crash", "Jet Black New Year", and "War All The Time".



ABOVE: Thursday's Guitarist Tom Keeley and Vocalist Geoff Rickly.
BELOW: Pierce the Veil's Guitarist and Vocalist Vic Fuentes.



ABOVE: Bring Me The Horizon's Vocalist
FAR RIGHT: Thursday's Vocalist Geoff
BELOW: Cancer Bats' Drummer Joel B.



Roommate's Pick: *Urbandub*

By Mark Cox
mark.cox@fox.com

Urbandub is a band out of Cebu, Philippines and one of the most critically-acclaimed bands in the country. Their genres slip in the groupings of experimental, alternative, and indie rock. They have been playing around their nation and have recently become popular in parts of Asia with their second album. Influence, which is being considered as their best album to date by critics. In 2004, they were awarded with Album of the Year by the NU107 Rock Awards from a radio station in

their hometown. Their most recent album was released in 2007 as *Under Southern Lights* by EMI Music.

and hip-hop. Because of line-up changes and new influences we became what we are today," Gabby Alipie, the lead vocalist said. "The name just kind of stuck, and we never bothered to change it."

The band is also writing new material and hope to get into the studio to record another record soon.

I like this band because of how unique they are. I have not heard a band that sounds like them because of their vocals and difference of ideas as songs. They should try to tour in the United States and find a spot in our nation's ranks.



"When we were just starting out, Urbandub was supposed to be a reggae band that mixed with dub, ska, dancehall

Now and Forever, game

By Jamie Block
U-Wire

There's something beautiful about a compact disc. First, there's its circular shape, which symbolizes the unending cycle of death, rebirth and a life of gaming. Then there's its art, a teaser of the wondrous beauties to be witnessed upon a game's installation; the physical solidity of the thing — the fact that you can hold a disc in your hand and just stare at it for a minute, letting the feeling sink in: "This game is gonna be awesome."

But games on discs are slowly becoming obsolete. The first things to go are expansion packs, which, especially on consoles, are starting to be available exclusively as downloads. Something just doesn't feel right about this. The vicious behemoth some blindly call "the Internet" is already devouring physical, paper-bound books as we know them. Why does it have to prey on games, too?

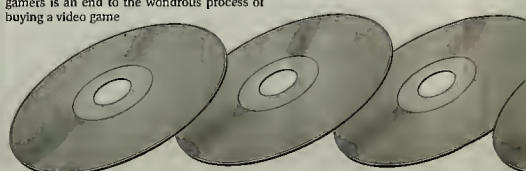
Now, the matter is obviously different for games than it is for books. When a book is put online, the format in which people read it changes. Yet no matter how you go about buying the game, you still play it on the same screen. What the disappearance of the disc means for gamers is an end to the wondrous process of buying a video game

and anticipating playing it.

Some of my favorite childhood moments were spent in Best Buy. I would rush into the store and make a mad dash for the game I wanted. Once I got my grubby little fingers on it, I would turn it over in my hands, reading every single letter printed on the shiny and colorful new box right down to the distribution info and seizure warnings. Once I had scanned it thoroughly, I would walk up and down the aisles looking at the vast array of other games and watching the bigger kids play demos. All the while clutching the box tightly to make sure nobody tried to steal it.

As soon as we got back to the car — if I could wait that long — I would rip off the plastic and open the box, finally beholding the disc itself. As I did with the book's text, I would diligently scour every page of the instruction booklet, stopping only when we got home and I could finally experience the game first-hand. These were fun times.

Today's simultaneous and deprive impact





the Horrors' Vocalist Oli Sykes.
the Horrors' Vocalist Geoff Rickly.
the Horrors' Drummer Joel Bath.



er, games belong On Discs

childhood moments could rush into the store for the game I wanted. I'd be reading every single and colorful new box, and I'd be looking at the aisles looking at the games and watching the

But today's youth are simultaneously spoiled and deprived by their own impatience. Sure, when you download a game right to your system you can play it right away, but where's the fun in that? Nobody plays any one game forever, so it's not like you're losing any play time by going on an adventure to the store to pick the game up yourself.

Also, the last thing gamers need is a way to become even more sedentary in the world of yesterday, you could always buy a game

on Amazon.com without leaving your house. But at least you had to get off the couch and go over to the computer. And then, when the game arrived, you had to open the door to get it.

possibly even getting some much-needed fresh air in the process.

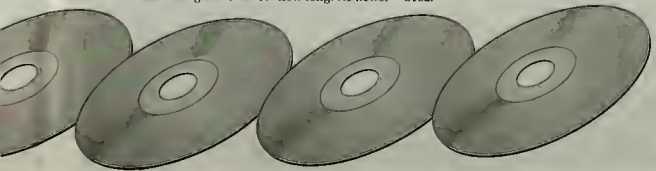
But there's also an economic aspect to those sneaky game publishers' decision to move online: They're killing the used game market. Sure, you'll still be able to sell your old Xbox and Gamecube games, but for how long? As newer

systems come out, the market for retro gaming becomes narrower and narrower. And the older the system, the harder it is to find a functioning console.

Games that are downloaded can't be bought and sold after the initial purchase. They're on your hard drive, and that's where they're staying. It's a sinisterly clever move by the game companies, who are basically assuring themselves financially by making everyone who wants to play a game on their own console buy their own copy. You can't even borrow from a friend anymore.

The advent of the downloadable game is going to have unforeseeable consequences on stores like GameSpot, so I won't attempt to foresee their futures with any particular degree of specificity. But suffice it to say this: A store that sells video games will have a hard time making it when video games are no longer sold in stores. Duh.

Whether you're a retro kid like me who thinks that discs and game boxes are just plain pretty or a hardcore gamer who's worried that he won't be able to mooch his friend's copy of the next "Grand Theft Auto," there's something just plain wrong about selling games solely via download. Besides, the Internet is probably just a fad.



Banksy, Audacious Graffiti Artist

By Hana Hawash
hana.hawash@thefreemove.com

Graffiti is not always appreciated when sprayed on public and private property alike, but recent graffiti found all over the world may soon change that. Political street artist Banksy, whose true identity is unknown, has started something that will change how the public will come to view graffiti.

Banksy is from Bristol in the UK, where most of his work can be found, but he has recently accomplished something bigger. He traveled to Palestine to paint on the segregation wall that Israel began constructing in 2003. According to Banksy, who refuses to have pictures taken so that his identity may remain a secret, the wall is "the ultimate activity holiday destination for graffiti writers." (news.bbc.co.uk)

Banksy has painted things that are representative of the feelings of the Palestinian people such as a ladder leading over the wall and children digging through the wall to freedom. The most representative is the peace dove carrying an olive branch swerving a bullet proof jacket. This represents how the people want and believe in peace, yet it is overtaken by violence.

Though his work in Palestine is probably the most noticed, he

has done plenty in the UK as well. The point of Banksy's work is to mock society's daily rat race, which he constantly represents with paintings of everyday scenes such as children playing, the queen or policemen in a twisted, and sometimes dark, new light. On the side of a building in Palestine there is a painting of a little girl searching an Israeli soldier who is carrying a gun, rather than the soldier searching her. On the side wall of a gas station, he painted a Palestinian man throwing a bouquet of flowers rather than stones, something Palestinians have been mocked for years.

Banksy, whose name is alleged to be Robert Banks, has been arrested in the past for the "bad art" on private and public property. One of his greatest accomplishments was putting a mock version of a famous painting in the British Museum, which went unnoticed for three days. He also painted on a private home property, which was later sold as artwork with a house attached.

Banksy's work will go down in history as a sign of independent thought and in an artistic form, free speech. For more information pertaining to Banksy and his work in Palestine and other countries, you can visit his website at www.banksy.co.uk.



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► GRADING DANE From Page 12

graduated or been minimal contributors.

Of those three, only Mohammed Essegir, who left in Fife's first season and ended up at South Florida, was outspoken at all when he left the program. DJ Posley left at the end of that year, but as a pre-Fife recruit, he wasn't expected by many outside the program to stick around. Posley spent this year as a senior at the University of California Santa Barbara after averaging 17 points per game in one year at John Woods Community College after he left IPFW. Posley was an All-American on the JuCo level. The team also lost then-senior Zeljko Egic last year for undisclosed reasons. And, there has seemed to be no general discontent within the program, no suspensions or long-term issues.

Scheduling • C-

This year's schedule was loaded with four teams who are headed to the NCAA Tournament and with the exception of a great outing against Michigan State, none of those were remotely close in score. The same can be said for previous seasons including his first. In his first year at the helm, Fife scheduled aggressively and was met with a 4-12 record against non-Indeterminate teams (IPFW was still conference free).

The main goal of scheduling is not to get easy wins, unless you are North Carolina or Kansas, but instead to

prepare your team for conference play. That was harder to do in his first two seasons with IPFW as an Independent, so it's almost compelling to give him an incomplete here. However, his scheduling this year and last (throw in big losses at Wisconsin and Nebraska) shows that while taking big risks may pay off with a big reward, it has not prepared them for Summit League play as much as a team would ideally like. In 2007-2008, they won their first two conference games ever but dropped the next three in a row by an average of 17 points. This year, they started 1-4 in the league.

Preparation • B

Along with a tough schedule comes tough days or weeks leading up to those games. And while Fife's schedule has often put IPFW in rough spots, he has done a solid job preparing them to have a big game mentality.

Fife, a former National Title game participant, knows a thing or two about big game scenarios and the team's start against Michigan State this season alone shows that he knows how to get a group of guys ready. There have been few games at all, including those not against national powers, where the team did not seem prepared.

The most notable hold back here is the nasty thorn in IPFW's side: Oakland. The team seemed flat in parts of all three meetings. In none of the three meetings did they seem prepared for all of Oakland's weapons.

In-Game Coaching • C

It is hard to gage a coach's

performance in games for several different reasons. The help of his assistants, the receptive nature of his players, his amount of experience coaching in games; they all play a role. Especially in the case of Fife, who started his career at IPFW with no prior head coaching experience.

It's been noticeable that Fife has become increasingly a little less active each year on the sidelines, except when angry at his team or the officials. Luckily in that, he is also no Bob Knight and he does seem to have solid awareness of how to patrol the sidelines properly. Fife knows when and when not to push the officials. Also, Fife seems all too aware of the crowd during games. Several times, he has turned around to slightly acknowledge a comment, be it good or bad.

When it comes to coaching on game day, you don't have to be the best as long as you have done your job throughout the week to prepare for the team you are facing. The better you are in the other four categories mentioned here, the more slack you can have in the in-game coaching area.

Overall • B

The press conference where Dane Fife was announced as the next head coach at IPFW is a crystal clear memory from IPFW's Division I past. Former athletic director Mark Pope was right when he said "Dane Fife is the right person at the right time for IPFW."

The statement is just as true now. No, in his first four years, Fife has not put the team in the NCAA Tournament, single handily filled the Memorial

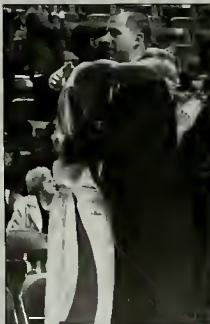


Photo by Monica Gerdeman

SENIOR: Fife hugs his first recruit Jakari Johnson during the recent senior night.

Coliseum's 14,000 seat capacity or scored a McDonald's All-American recruit. But anyone who thought that was what they were getting was dead wrong.

Dane Fife was very up front four years ago, that all things take time. He's helped IPFW into a conference, though that transition, continues to bring in better players each year and has kept the interest of the community on his team when there are plenty of other sporting venues in this city for their minds to wander to.

Women hit right stride at the end

By Dan Vance

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Illinois, Butler, St. Bonaventure, Iowa State - just a sampling of games that IPFW coach Chris Paul would like to get a do-over on.

Those opponents, teamed with 13 others helped railroad IPFW into a 2-17 record at the beginning of the season. But then Paul's Masotodons hit the right stride at the right time, winning six of their last seven before a close loss to IUPUI in the opening round of the Summit

For the complete women's basketball wrap, check out next week's Communicator

IUPUI in Indianapolis a week prior to the tournament, the post-season loss was a hard one to swallow.

"You have to give them credit for battling back," Paul said after the game. "We played and defeated them about (two weeks) ago. That might not have been a good thing. I think tonight they were able to make the adjustments against us."

IPFW led by as many as six late before falling 61-59.

Considering that the team accumulated zero wins between the December 8 win over Southern Utah and January 26th's upending of Western Illinois, a 9-21 finishing record



Photo by Monica Gerdeman

ELBOW ROOM: Using her elbow to create a little space, Chelsey Jackson drives against Southern Utah.

is impressive.

For Paul, next season will be his fourth full season at the helm. Since taking over, Paul has become the fifth winningest coach in school history at 39-70. He won six games as an interim coach and won 12 in each of his first two full seasons.

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Another step forward

By Dan Vance

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Throughout the years, Dane Fife has been very clear that his team is making progress towards the ultimate goal of being a consistent conference contender.

This year was another step forward in that evolution as the Mastodons picked up big conference wins late and even knocked off usual Summit power Oral Roberts.

"I think we've established IPFW as a team, as a respectful program; it's not a doormat. Now we have to continue to build a championship contender," Fife said. "We know the odds are against us, but with that said, we have a job to do and we are going to do it to the best of our ability."

The team will only be replacing David Carson and Jakari Johnson. The duo played a total of six seasons with the Mastodons, each leaving an important mark.

"Dave and Jakari brought a solid leadership that is going to be tough to replace and that's where you have to have guys like (Deilvee) Yearby and (Zach) Plackemeier and (Nick) Daniels who understand and will put in the work," Fife said.

Yearby and Daniels will headline another small senior class next year with Aaron Richie, who played limited minutes later in the season.

Plackemeier and Ben Botts already came into this past season as the most tenured Mastodons, despite their sophomore status. Botts has averaged around 30 minutes per contest both seasons while Plackemeier's time and productivity nearly doubled from 16 to 32 minutes and 4.1 to 7.7 points from 2007-2008 to 2008-2009.

Freshmen John Peckinpaugh and Trey McCorkle join those core five players as the only other strongly experienced players on the roster.

Fife plans to make some changes to next year's non-



ABOVE: Jakari Johnson does a little happy dance during player introductions at Oakland on February 14.



RIGHT: With his defender off balance, Zach Plackemeier shovels up a shot in a loss against Ball State on December 1.

Photos by Lucas Carter/
lucascarterphotography.com

conference schedule. This season, IPFW played and lost to four current NCAA participants and Nebraska, who will play in the postseason NIT Tournament, also starting this week.

"I think we have to have a few of those games, I think we have way too many," Fife

noted. "You'd like to come into conference play with no worse than an 8-3 record and the games that we have to play makes it very difficult to do so."

IPFW was 5-6 in non-Summit League play in 2008, including wins over Valparaiso, Eastern Illinois and IU-East.

Summit League result dissapoints but may offer best opportunity

In All Directions

By Dan Vance

vance-lad.blogspot.com

Let me first say that I am not happy with the outcome of the Summit League tournament title game. I have never been a fan of North Dakota State and never even pretended to like conference Player of the Year Ben Woodsides.

On the other end of the spectrum, you could call me somewhat of an Oakland fan (I know Dane, you don't have to say anything.)

I think Oakland was the perfect team when it comes to the conference. They have a terrific, experienced coach in Greg Kampe, a stellar quick point man in Jonathan Jones, a lights out shooter in Eric Kangas, a high energy pest in Keith Benson and the intangible guy in Will Hudson. Around ALL of that, they also have stellar freshman Drew Maynard and a defensive juggernaut in frosh Blake Cushingberry. Not to mention senior Dan Waterstradt, who was out of this world in the opening round against IPFW.

That to me is the perfect prototype for a Mid-Major and I, as a fan of basketball, would have been proud to have that team represent the Summit League in this year's field of 65. But I also know the conference's best chance at winning a tournament game comes in the form of NDSU.

This Bison team is everything that Cinderella could hope to be. They are from a smaller conference, in their first full year of NCAA Division I eligibility. But at the same, with a record of 26-5, they are not exactly too far off the radar. After winning the conference tournament, NDSU had a chance to win a game in this year's NCAA Tournament.

That is something that neither Oakland or even defending league champion Oral Roberts would do.

So I feel bad for Oakland, but know that sans-Kangas and Waterstradt, they will all be back to power through the conference next year. Not to mention, their best player Derrick Nelson didn't even play this year.

And for NDSU, they may not be the team I wanted to see advance, but they are the Summit's best chance. Even before the field of 65 was announced this past Sunday, people all around college basketball were calling on the Bison to be the potential upset special this post-season. That seemed to die down some when they drew defending National Champions Kansas.

But I don't see why.

Kansas as an opponent does not change all of the good things that NDSU brings to the table and to me, they will still be the "Cinderella" team when all is said and done. More importantly, even a single win by them will given instant credibility to the league.

Hope the Bison don't let down.

Fife hopes that Hines, other potential recruits will fill voids

As the post-season recruiting process gets into full swing, IPFW coach Dane Fife is ready to fill any holes in his lineup.

"I think we need some bulk, especially to replace Dave (Carson), someone who can guard the three or four or even five," Fife said.

Some of that interior assistance will come from 6'8" Mario Hines, who committed on September 30 of last year.

Hines, a forward out of Garfield Heights High School in Cleveland, Ohio is considered a two-star recruit by scout.com and could be a strong inside swing player in the form of junior Deilvee Yearby with time and weight added to his 215 pound frame.

"He is athletic and has some skill," Fife said. "He's not going to come in and be an all-league player to

start with. Mario's going to take some time to develop but he'll get it done in the meantime."

Fife is also hoping to add another solid player at the shooting guard or small forward position to further depth.

"We need a bigger wing, Frank Gaines is only 6'2". We need a wing about 6'5" that can guard some of the bigger wings in our league," Fife said.

Gaines, a redshirt this season, will have four full years of eligibility left and is expected to add a good deal of energy and athleticism. He averaged 16.7 points and seven rebounds as a high school senior.

RECRUIT: Future Mastodon Mario Hines plays defense earlier this season.

Photo Courtesy of Cleveland.com



